The International Space Station and the Personal Satellite Assistant

A Collection of Annotated Images



The Russian Proton rocket carries Zarya, the first component of the International Space Station, into orbit on November 20, 1998.

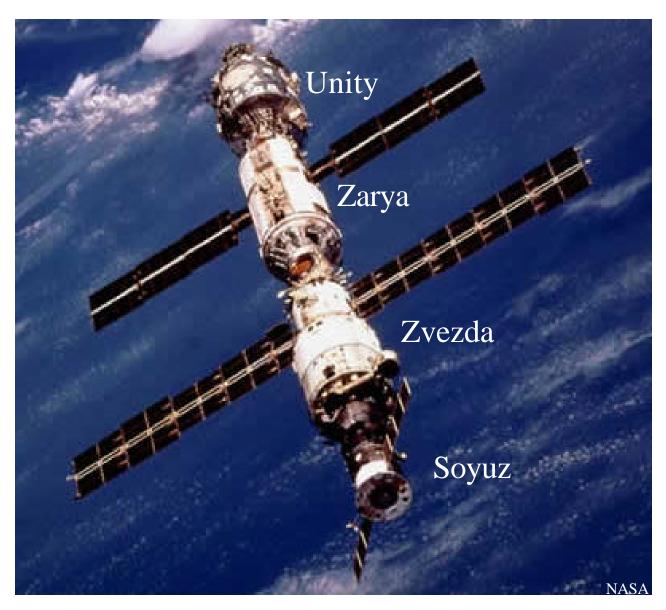
Zarya orbited Earth for just two weeks before the next component of the ISS was delivered.



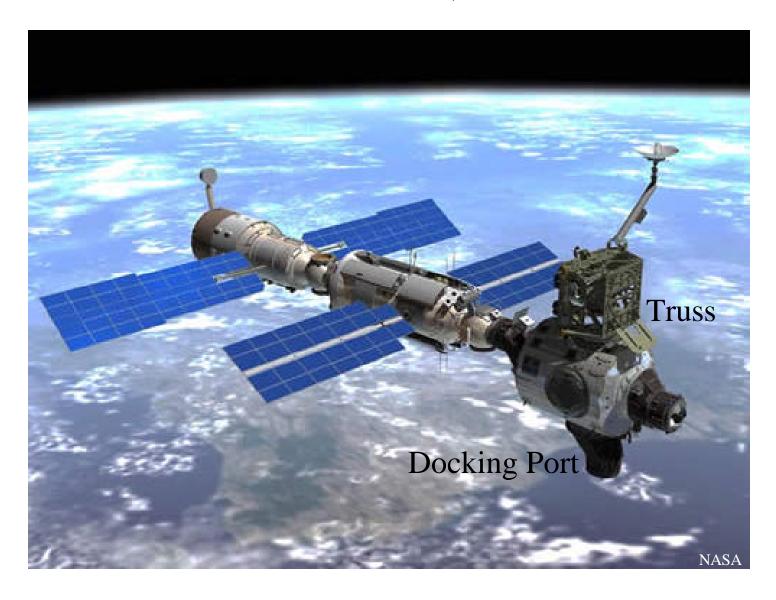
The Unity module was carried into orbit by the Space Shuttle Endeavor on December 4, 1998. The ISS was still not ready for occupancy.



The third major component of the ISS-Zvezda-was launched on July 25, 2000. In this photo, the Russian Soyuz spacecraft is docked to Zvezda.



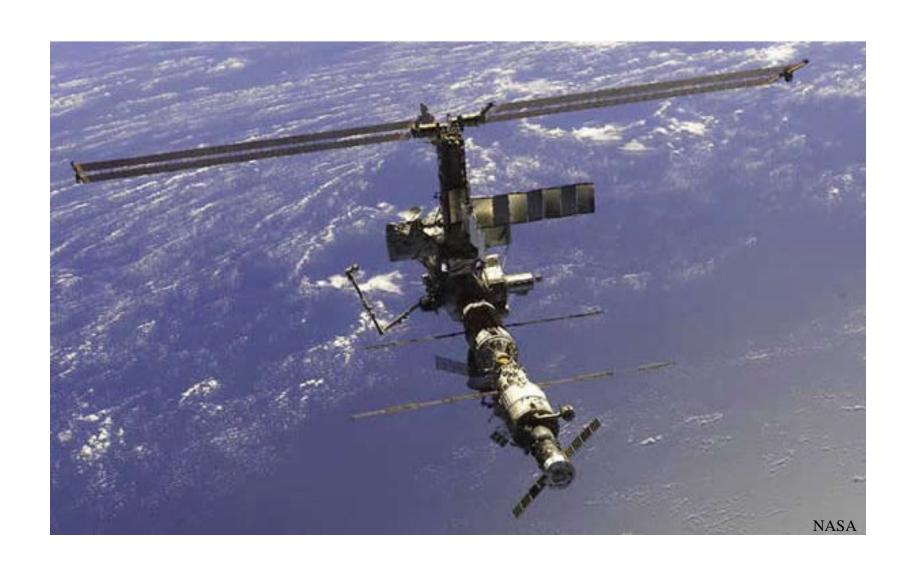
Additional components—the first section of a truss and a docking port— were attached to Unity in October, 2000. The first permanent crew moved into the ISS on November 2, 2000.



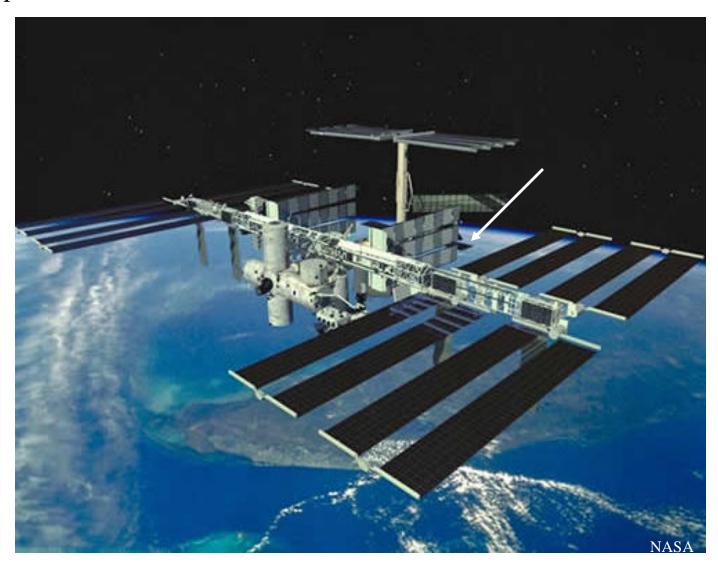
This photo of an astronaut inside the crowded Unity module was taken on December 7, 2002.



Many additional components were added to get the ISS to this stage. This photo was taken on April 17, 2002. The ISS is still only about 50% complete.



This drawing gives you a sense of how much larger and complex the completed ISS will be. The white arrow indicates the tip of one of Zvezda's solar panels.



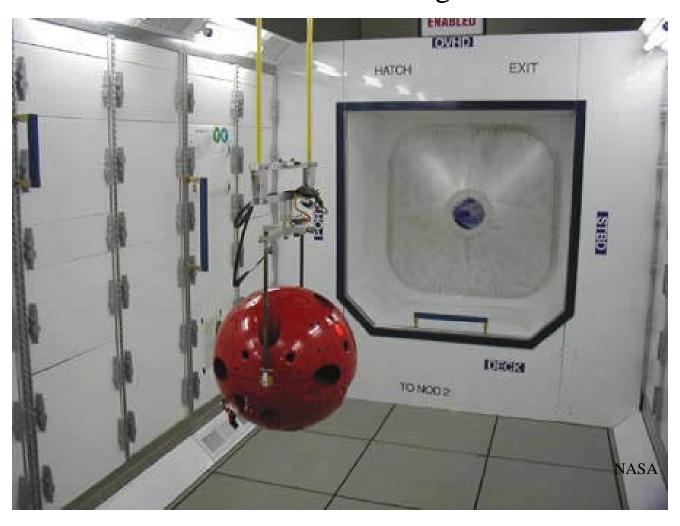
For more information about the ISS, visit the following Web sites.

To get the real-time location of the ISS, go to http://spaceflight.nasa.gov And click the link Where is the station? at the bottom of the page.

The URL below will take you to a Japanese Web site which has a major collection of NASA and other photographs and drawings of the ISS under construction. The images in this presentation were drawn from that Web site.

http://spaceboy.nasda.go.jp/lib/station/station/e/construction_01_e.html

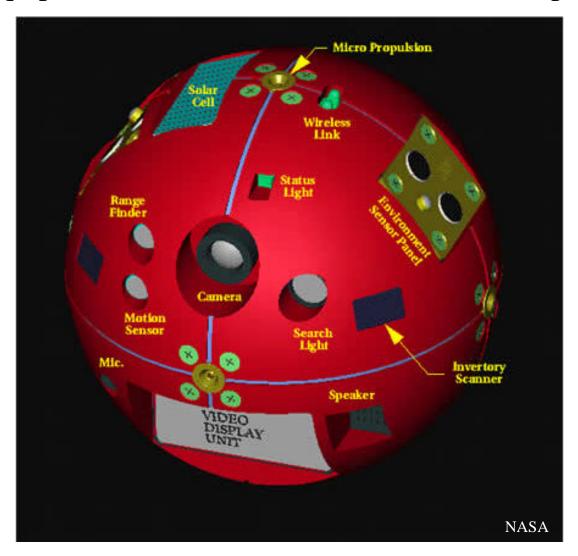
Here the Personal Satellite Assistant (PSA) is being tested in a zero-gravity simulator at NASA Ames Research Center in California. Computer-controlled cranes support the PSA and follow it whenever the fans are moving it.



The PSA is not scheduled to be in the ISS for several more years. This is a preview of how it might appear as it moves around the ISS.



This labeled image of the PSA will give you some sense of the equipment it carries and the functions it can perform.



The URL below will take you to a Web site where, using a simulation, you can navigate the PSA to various target locations. It's a lot of fun. Give it a try!

http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/projects/psa/acti.htm